

## Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended ) A hollow fiber membrane submodule comprising:  
a hollow fiber membrane element having a feed fluid inlet,  
a feed fluid distribution pipe in communication with the feed fluid inlet, and an assembly of  
hollow fiber membranes having selective permeability and disposed around the feed fluid  
distribution pipe, wherein both ends of the hollow fiber membrane assembly are separately fixed  
with resin, and at least one end of the hollow fiber membrane assembly is subsequently cut to  
hollow out the hollow fiber membranes; ~~and~~

permeated fluid collectors for collecting permeated fluid flowing from the opening or  
openings of the hollow fiber membranes; ; and

~~the permeated fluid collectors being secured to the hollow fiber membrane element with  
removable snaps in a non-continuous manner~~

removable snaps arranged non-continuously around the outer peripheral surface of the  
permeated fluid collector and an end of the hollow fiber membrane element, securing the  
permeated fluid collector to the end of the hollow fiber membrane element in which a projection  
on one end of a snap is engaged in a depression provided in the end of the hollow fiber  
membrane element, and a projection on the other end of the snap is engaged in a depression  
provided in the permeated fluid collector.

2. (Original) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1,  
wherein the hollow fiber membranes having selective permeability are arranged in a crisscross  
fashion around the feed fluid distribution pipe in communication with the feed fluid inlet.

3. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the  
hollow fiber membranes are reverse osmosis membranes.

4. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the  
snaps are made of resin.

5. (Previously Presented) The hollow fiber membrane according to Claim 1, wherein the snaps have an impact strength of not less than  $2.5 \text{ kg}\cdot\text{cm}/\text{cm}$ , a bending elasticity coefficient of  $10,000$  to  $200,000 \text{ kg}/\text{cm}^2$ , and a tensile strength of not less than  $400 \text{ kg}/\text{cm}^2$ .

6. (Previously Presented) A hollow fiber membrane module comprising two or more of the hollow fiber membrane submodules according to Claim 1, in a pressure vessel.